Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy, consisting essentially of iridium, Rh, W and Zr; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy.

2. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 1, wherein W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy.

3. (Previously Presented) An alloy comprising an iridium alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh, W, Zr and Pt; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; wherein Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein Pt comprises between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.

4. (Currently Amended) An alloy comprising an iridium alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh, W, Zr and one or more elements selected from the group consisting of Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y, Tl, Ru and Pd individually in an amount of between 0.01 and 10 wt% of the alloy; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy.

5. (Original) An alloy according to claim 4, wherein when present, Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y and Ti individually comprise between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present, Ru and Pd individually comprise between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.

6. - 12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 3, wherein W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy.

14. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 4, wherein W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy.

15. - 18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) In iridium alloy according to claim 1, wherein W comprises between 0.02 and 2.0 wt% of the alloy.

20. (Previously Presented) In iridium alloy according to claim 3, wherein W comprises between 0.02 and 2.0 wt% of the alloy.

21. (Previously Presented) In iridium alloy according to claim 4, wherein W comprises between 0.02 and 2.0 wt% of the alloy.

22. (Currently Amended) An alloy comprising an iridium alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh, W, Zr, Pt, and one or more elements selected from the group consisting of Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y, Ti, Ru and Pd individually in an amount of between 0.01 and 10 wt% of the alloy; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; ~~and~~ wherein Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein Pt comprises between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.

23. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 22, wherein W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy.

24. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy according to claim 22, wherein W comprises between 0.02 and 2.0 wt% of the ~~allow~~ alloy.

25. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 22, wherein when present, Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y and Ti individually comprise between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present, Ru and Pd individually comprise between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.